

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Tariff Commission to investigate to- mato costs	617	Navy asks proposals on canned foods	620
Wholesale grocers report on stocks ..	618	Bulletins on packing for domestic shipment	620
Arrangements for licensing of storage facilities	618	Sanitation certificates for canned fish in Venezuela	620
Tentative report on rate case	619	"Popular Science" discusses vitamins	620

Tariff Commission to Investigate Tomato Costs

The United States Tariff Commission on June 10 issued public notice of its intention to conduct an investigation, as provided by Section 315 of the Tariff Act of 1922, into the cost of production of tomatoes in the natural state and tomatoes prepared or preserved in any manner. It is understood that the Commission has under consideration a similar investigation with respect to tomato paste.

The notice issued by the Tariff Commission fixes no date for the public hearing, and 30-days' notice of such hearing will be given by the Commission. Following is the notice as issued by the Tariff Commission with respect to canned tomatoes:

The United States Tariff Commission on this 10th day of June, 1927, for the purpose of assisting the President in the exercise of the powers vested in him by Section 315 of Title III of the Tariff Act of 1922, and under the powers granted by law and pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Commission, hereby orders an investigation of the differences in costs of production of, and of all other facts and conditions enumerated in said section with respect to, the articles described in Paragraph 770 of Title I of said Tariff Act, namely: Tomatoes, prepared or preserved in any manner, being wholly or in part the growth or product of the United States, and of and with respect to like or similar articles wholly or in part the growth or product of competing foreign countries.

Ordered further, that all parties interested shall be given opportunity to be present, to produce evidence, and to be heard at a public hearing in said investigation to be held at the office of the Commission in Washington, D. C., or at such other place or places as the Commission may designate, on a date hereafter to be fixed, of which said public hearing prior public notice shall be given by posting the notice thereof for thirty days at the office of the Commission in the City of Washington, D. C., and at the office of the Commission at the port of New York and by publication once each week for two successive weeks in "Treasury Decisions" published

by the Department of the Treasury, and in "Commerce Reports" published by the Department of Commerce, copies of which said publications are obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents of the Government Printing Office in Washington, D. C.

And ordered further, that public notice of said investigation shall be given by posting a copy of this order for thirty days at the principal office of the Commission in the City of Washington, D. C., and at the office of the Commission at the port of New York, and by publishing a copy of this order once a week for two successive weeks in said "Treasury Decisions" and in said "Commerce Reports."

Wholesale Grocers Report on Stocks

The National Wholesale Grocers Association on June 15 gave out statistics it had compiled from wholesale grocers on stocks of canned pineapple, peaches and corn as of June 1. Three hundred and fifty-six grocers replied to the Association's questionnaire. Thomas' Register lists 6,372 wholesale grocers. The Association states it can be assumed that the grocers replying to the questionnaire are, on the average, more important factors in the trade than the general run. The figures may be summarized as follows:

	Number of grocers reporting stocks	Stocks re- ported <i>Cases</i>	Number of grocers reporting no stocks
Pineapple:			
No. 2 crushed	326	29,955	30
No. 2 sliced	340	66,962	16
No. 2½ crushed	206	11,691	150
No. 2½ sliced	325	126,995	31
No. 10 crushed	266	31,060	90
No. 10 sliced	231	20,754	156
Peaches:			
No. 2½ water and seconds	226	53,908	130
No. 2 syrup	224	19,411	132
No. 2½ syrup	349	223,339	7
No. 10 pie and water..	257	89,955	99
No. 10 syrup	245	39,851	111
Corn:			
All sizes	331	983,005	25

Arrangements for Licensing of Storage Facilities

At the request of canners in various parts of the country, the Department of Agriculture on August 11, 1926, placed canned foods on the eligible list for storage under the United States Warehouse Act. Since that time some canners in Maryland, Illinois, Virginia, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas and Oregon have taken advantage of this law.

Because the season was well advanced last year before canned foods were storable, many canners had to make financial arrangements for carrying their packs on another basis. Department officials now call attention of canners who may want to finance this year through the use of federal warehouse receipts to the desirability of arranging at once for the licensing of storage facilities.

It may interest some of our members to know that some canners who could offer federal receipts as collateral have had no difficulty in arranging finances at interest rates in line with the acceptance paper market. Any canner desiring to use the federal warehouse receipt ought to get in touch at once with Mr. H. S. Yohe, In Charge Administration U. S. Warehouse Act, Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Tentative Report on Rate Case

In a tentative report, made public June 13, Examiner Harraman recommends to the Interstate Commerce Commission that it dismiss the complaint filed by the Luckenbach Steamship Company against the Southern Railway and other rail carriers in Southeastern territory attacking the class and commodity rates maintained between Gulf and South Atlantic ports on the one hand and interior points in Southeastern territory on the other, on traffic originating in Pacific Coast territory transported through the Panama Canal by water carriers to said ports.

The Luckenbach Steamship Company operates a steamship line transporting freight between Pacific Coast ports and Gulf and South Atlantic ports and its complaint alleged that the rail rates between Gulf and South Atlantic ports and interior points in the southeast when applied to traffic that has been transported from the Pacific Coast through the Panama Canal are unjust and unreasonable wherever such rates are the same as, or higher than, the rates over the same railroads between the same points on like traffic which has not been transported by water.

The Commission has not yet acted upon the recommendations in the Examiner's report, which states that the complainant fails to show that the maintenance of local rates between the ports and interior ports on traffic handled by it through the Panama Canal results in undue preference of all rail lines and traffic handled by them, or undue prejudice to complainant and traffic handled by it, or is otherwise unlawful.

Navy Asks Proposals on Canned Foods

The Navy Department is advertising for bids on 1,004,400 pounds of canned catsup and 1,120,000 pounds of canned peaches, to be opened August 16; and 1,920,000 pounds of canned peas and 800,000 pounds of canned pineapple, to be opened August 2. Each article is for delivery, in various quantities, to Boston, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Hampton Roads, Mare Island and Puget Sound. Copies of schedules on which to submit bids may be obtained upon application to the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Bulletins on Packing for Domestic Shipment

The transportation Division of the United States Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce has completed its series of publications on packing for domestic shipment by the issuance of four bulletins dealing respectively with fiber containers, cleated plywood boxes, wire-bound boxes, and wooden boxes. Copies of each of these pamphlets may be obtained for 10 cents each from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington. The bulletins making up the complete series are as follows: Domestic Commerce Series No. 3.—Paper-Wrapped Packages for Parcel Post and Express Shipment; No. 10, Fiber Containers; No. 11, Cleated Plywood Boxes; No. 12, Wire-Bound Boxes; No. 13, Cooperage and Steel Barrels; No. 14, Wooden Boxes; No. 15, Nailed Wooden Crates; No. 16, Baling.

Sanitation Certificates for Canned Fish in Venezuela

According to a statement from the American Consul at Caracas, a resolution of December 13 by the Director of Public Health of Venezuela provides that importations of canned fish into that country are subject to the formalities provided by Article 167 of the pure food law, which requires that they be accompanied by a sanitation certificate stating that the product has been prepared in accordance with the laws of the country from which it is exported. The certificate must be executed by a competent authority at the place of origin and visaed by the Venezuelan consul, or, if there is not a Venezuelan consul at the place, by the consul of a friendly nation.

"Popular Science" Discusses Vitamins

"Popular Science" for July contains an illustrated article by Thomas M. Johnson on "Canned Food and Your Health", which presents in an interesting form the findings of scientists with respect to vitamins in canned foods.